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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:)
) Before the Examiner
Scott G. Tromanhauser) Unassigned
)
Application No. 10/748,120) Group Art Unit
) 3739
)
Filed December 30, 2004) July 14, 2004
)
VERTEBRAE FASTENER)
PLACEMENT GUIDE)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

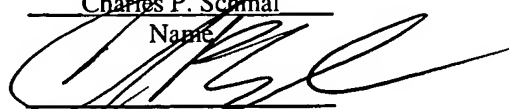
Sir:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment for the above-entitled patent application.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

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